

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for automatically providing a dental
5 patient with a fresh toothbrush, the method comprising:

collecting identifier information for the dental
patient, the identifier information including dental
office, previous hygiene appointment date and future
hygiene appointment date;

10 preparing a mailing package containing the fresh
toothbrush with a reminder notice of the future hygiene
appointment at the dental office; and

15 sending the mailing package to the patient on a
given date based on a time interval from the previous
hygiene appointment date.

2. A system for automatically providing a dental
patient with a fresh toothbrush, the system comprising:

20 data collection means for collecting the patient
name together with a previous hygiene appointment date;

packaging means for preparing a mailing package
containing the fresh toothbrush; and

calculating means for determining a given date to send the mailing package to the patient based on the previous hygiene appointment date.